

News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Kind Request Granted; Aerobatic Stunt Planes in Holding Pattern Until Noise Assessment Review is Completed

Washington, DC – In a reversal of its previous position on the authorized flying of recreational aerobatic stunt planes using the Iowa County Airport in Mineral Point, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) indicated in a letter to U.S. Rep. Ron Kind that the FAA will suspend its decision to grant authorization to conduct aerobatics below 1,500 feet at the airport until a noise assessment is completed.

In February, Kind met with Mineral Point residents on this issue and subsequently sent a letter to FAA Administrator Marion C. Blakey requesting intervention with the FAA Flight Standards Office in Milwaukee to prevent authorization of the contract renewal.

"In light of the strong local opposition to the use of these noisy stunt planes, I am pleased with the decision of the FAA to step in and suspend authorization of aerobatic activity until an official noise assessment is conducted. This latest development is the next step in addressing this problem, and I will continue to do everything possible to assure that in the end Mineral Point residents live in peace. I have requested the FAA to convene another meeting with local residents to discuss the assessment process. Additionally, it is my hope that through this process we can find a suitable practice site for these aerobatic activities."

Rep. Kind will notify residents once the FAA reports its findings of the noise assessment. In the interim, the FAA requests Mineral Point resident to report aerobatic flying below the permitted altitude of 1,500 feet above ground. If you should observe this violation, please contact the FAA's Milwaukee Flight Standards District Office at 4915 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207 or call (414) 486-2920.

FAA response letter attached.